

REMARKS

In response to the above Office Action and the rejection of certain claims under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, the claims have been amended as follows:

The definition of A and C in claim 1 has been amended to be consistent with and provide antecedent basis for claim 13. Though the Examiner indicated claim 14 also lacked antecedent basis, phosphorus was already a member of the Markush Group for A and C.

In clause (i) of claims 1, 4, and 47, "any substituents on one or more of R¹, R², R³ and R⁴" has been changed to "no one or more of R¹, R², R³ and R⁴ have a substituent that is" and in clause (ii) "is substituted with" has been changed to "has" and "any polar substituents on R¹, R², R³ and R⁴ are not" has been changed to "none of R¹, R², R³ and R⁴ has any polar substituent" for clarity. It is believed these amendments should avoid the noted rejections of these claims.

In claim 8, rather than change "on" to "in," it has been changed to "that" and "have" added after R⁴. It is believed this should avoid the noted rejection of the claim.

Regarding claim 10 and the rejection of the claim under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, the nomenclature of certain members of the Markush Groups is not correct as Y is a linking group and, therefore, is divalent. To correct this, 1,2-ethane, 1,2-propane, 1,2-catechol, and dimethylhydrazine have been amended as requested. In addition, because "hydrocarbyl" is a monovalent group, this has been changed to "hydrocarbylene." See attached Exhibits A and B.

Since it is clear from the teachings of the specification that Y is a divalent group, it is not believed that these amendments to claim 10 or the conforming amendments to page 8 of the specification represent the addition of any new matter.

With the amendment to the definition of A and C in claim 1, it is believed proper antecedence is now provided for "P(=S)" and P(=Se)" in claim 17.

Regarding claim 18, and the fact that "methoxy" is a polar group, claim 1 includes ligands having polar substituents on the R-groups, so long as they are not on the atom adjacent to the atom bound to A or C (e.g., ortho position when R is phenyl). Note that Claim 1 ends with two classes of ligands when there are four R-groups:

- (i) none of the R-groups have a substituent that is polar; OR
- (ii) at least one R-group has a polar substituent, but that polar substituent is not on the atom adjacent to the atom bound to A or C.

As a result, all of the ligands in claim 18 having methoxy substituents on the R-groups find antecedence in claim 1 because they all relate to ligands having four R-groups and the polar (methoxy) substituent is not on the atom adjacent to the atom bound to A or C. Indeed they are meta- and para- substituents on aromatic R's and not ortho-substituents.

Finally, claim 40 has been amended as requested.

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's helpful advice in placing this case in condition for acceptance.


It is believed that all rejections to the claims have been met and that claims 1-8, 10-25, and 27-47 are now in condition for allowance.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our Deposit Account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

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By 

Arthur S. Garrett
Reg. No. 20,338
Tel: 202 408 4091

Attachments:

EXHIBITS A and B (two pages)

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hydrocarbyl groups

Univalent groups formed by removing a hydrogen atom from a *hydrocarbon*, e.g. ethyl, phenyl.

See *heterocyclyl*, *organoheteryl*, *organyl* groups.
1995, 67, 1341

hydrocarbylene groups

Divalent groups formed by removing two hydrogen atoms from a *hydrocarbon*, the free valencies of which are not engaged in a double bond, e.g. 1,3-phenylene, $-\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2-$ propane-1,3-diyl, $-\text{CH}_2-$ methylene.

1995, 67, 1341